HASSAN JEANNE M 10/24/81 141104 PRINTER: LI
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PAGE 01 KINGST 06414 301911Z
ACTION ARA-16
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SY-05 SYE-00 DCT-02 HA-05 PM-07
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 /080 W
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DECLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY 64
RDS or XDS EXT. DATE 25 JUN 1982
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

R 291155Z AUG 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4573
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 6414
E.O.12065. GDS 8/28/86 (LAWRENCE LOREN) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM
SUBJECT: PNP CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SECURITY FORCES HEATS UP
REF: KINGSTON 6282

1. (C) SUMMARY. MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) HELD AN ALL NIGHT VIGIL ON AUGUST 25-26 AND STAGED A 3000 STRONG DEMONSTRATION MARCH TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO PROTEST ALLEGED ABUSES OF THE SECURITY FORCES. ONE MAN WAS KILLED BY THE MARCHERS, AND ONE POLICE CONSTABLE RECEIVED MULTIPLE STAB WOUNDS. THE CONTINUING CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SECURITY FORCES IS BEING LED BY PARTY RADICALS. IT APPEARS DESIGNED TO COUNTERACT THE INCREASING EFFECTIVENSS OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY AND TO TAKE POLITICAL ADVANTAGE OF THE DISTRUST OF THE GHETTO POOR OF THE PUBLIC SAFTEY AUTHORITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) CENTRAL AND WESTERN KINGSTON PNP MEMBERS ORGANIZED AN ALL NIGHT VIGIL THE EVENING OF MONDAY, AUGUST 25, TO PROTEST THE KILLING OF A YOUNG MAN EARLIER IN THE DAY AND OTHER ALLEGED ABUSES BY THE SECURITY FORCES. THE PNP CLAIMED

CONFIDENTIAL
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PAGE 02 KINGST 06414 301911Z

THE YOUND MAN WAS KILLED BY SECURITY PERSONNEL ACCOMPANY JAMAICA LABOR PARTY (JLP) CANDIDATES COLONEL LESLIE LLOYD AND FERDIE TAP, WHO LED A JLP MARCH IN WEST KINGSTON. THE SECURITY FORCES LATER EXPALINED PUBLICLY THAT THEIR PERSONNEL WERE PRESENT BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF POLITICIAL VIOLENCE AND NOT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO JLP CANDIDATES.

3. (U) DURING THE VIGIL, PNP PARTY SECRETARY D.K. DUNCAN AND MINISTER OF FINANCE HUGH SMALL, ALONG WITH OTHER PNP MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM KINGSTON CONSTITUTENCIES ADDRESSED THE CROWD. IN THEIR SPEECHES THEY CHARGED THAT THE SECURITY FORCES WERE BECOMING INCREASINGLY ALIENATED FROM THE PEOPLE. THEY URGED THEIR LISTENERS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES IF THE SECURITY FORCES APPEARED UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO DO SO.

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HUGH SMALL, WHO WAS ACTING PRIME MINISTER MONDAY NIGHT, CALLED ON THE SECURITY FORCES TO BE "LAWMAKERS AND NOT LAWBREAKERS."

4. (U) ON TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26, THE CROWD, POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE TO PROTEST ALLEGED ABUSES OF SECURTY FORCES AGAINST THE POOREST RESIDENTS OF KINGSTON. ALONG THE ROUTE, TAXI DRIVER AT A BUS STOP WAS ACCUSED OF BEING A JLP SUPPORTER AND WAS STABBED TO DEATH, THERE WAS HEAVY POLICE PRESENCE AT SEVERAL POINTS AND TEAR GAS WAS USED AT LEAST ONCE. IN MID AFTERNOON, THE MOB DISPERSED AFTER DK DUNCAN AND FIVE OTHER PNP MEMBERS MET WITH POLICE COMMISSIONER BILL BOWES.

5. (U) JLP CHAIRMAN RONALD IRVINE ON AUGUST 27 CRITICIZED THE TUESDAY DEMONSTRATION ACCUSING THE PNP OF HINDERING THE WORK OF THE SECURITY FORCES, UNDER-

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PAGE 03 KINGST 06414 301911Z

MINING THEIR MORALE AND INCITING CITIZENS AGAINST THE SECURITY FORCES. DEPUTY PARTY LEADER PEARNEL CHARLES CHARGED THAT THE PNP WANTED TO CREATE A CLIMATE IN WHICH THE SUPPRESSION OF CRIME ACT WOULD NOT BE RENEWED ON SEPTEMBER 9, THEREBY EFFECTIVELY KEEPING THE MILITARY OUT OF CIVIL LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ORDER TO PERMIT FOUR WEEKS OF VIOLENCE BEFORE THE ELECTIONS. IN ADDITION, HE FEARED THAT AN EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO SUPPLANT THE SECURITY FORCES WITH THE PNP INFLUENCED HOME GUARDS.

6. (C) COMMENT: THE PNP VIGIL AND MARCH IS A CONTINUATION OF THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN, LED BY PARTY SECRETARY D.K. DUNCAN AND SEVERAL OTHER RADICAL PNP MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT KINGSTON CONSITUENCIES, TO UNDERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECURITY FORCES. BY EXAGGERATING THE LIMITED INSTANCES OF ABUSES BY INDIVIDUAL MEOBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES, THEY ARE SEEKING TO COUNTERACT THE SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY OVER THE PAST MONTH TO CONTROL VIOLENCE IN KINGSTON AND TO PRESENT THEMSELVES AS THE CHAMPIONS OF THE LITTLE MAN ALLEGEDLY OPPRESSED BY WHAT IS KNOWN HERE AS "ESTABLISHMENT VIOLENCE". A MORE SINSTER MOTIVE BEHIND THE CAMPAIGN, WHICH THE OPPOSITION FEARS, MAY BE AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE SUPPRESSION OF CRIME ACT WILL NOT BE EXTENDED AND IN WHICH IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO INVOLE THE 10,000 STRONG HOME GUARD, WHICH THE PNP INFLUENCES, IN SECURITY ACTIVITIED BEFORE THE ELECTIONS.

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